



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC WOMAN SENTENCED IN CRACK COCAINE CONSPIRACY AFTER NARCOTICS FOUND AT HOME DAY CARE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the owner of a home day care in Kansas City, Mo., was sentenced in federal court today for participating in a conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, some of which was found in her home while children were present under her care.

Valeriece D. Ealom, 36, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Fernando J. Gaitan, Jr., this morning to 10 years in federal prison without parole.

On Sept. 9, 2004, **Ealom** pleaded guilty to participating in a conspiracy to distribute 50 grams or more of crack cocaine in Kansas City, Mo., between Nov. 1, 2002, and Sept. 10, 2003.

Ealom sold crack cocaine from her residence at 2920 Wabash in Kansas City, Graves said, where she also operated a home day care center. When law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at **Ealom's** residence on Sept. 10, 2003, they found 36.98 grams of crack cocaine hidden in a plastic bag in the pipes of the toilet and in an office area just inside the front door. They also found a loaded Beretta 9 mm handgun with seven live rounds in the clip, and a Norinco 12-gauge shotgun loaded with five live rounds. Seven or eight children were found in and around the residence.

Ealom is one of three co-defendants who have pleaded guilty to charges contained in a Sept. 11, 2003, federal indictment.

Clifford E. Dorsey, 44, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty on Sept. 9, 2004, to participating in a conspiracy to distribute powder cocaine. **Dorsey** admitted that he participated in a conspiracy to distribute more than five kilograms of cocaine, some of which he arranged to have transported from California to Kansas City, between Nov. 1, 2002, and Sept. 10, 2003. **Dorsey** also agreed to forfeit to the government any proceeds of the cocaine conspiracy or property used to further the

conspiracy, including:

- * Approximately \$5,015 seized from **Dorsey** on March 7, 2003;
- * A 1994 Lexus GS 300 that **Dorsey** was driving, which was seized on March 7, 2003;
- * Approximately \$1,876 seized on Sept. 10, 2003, from **Dorsey**;
- * A 1993 Jeep Cherokee that **Dorsey** was driving, which was seized on Sept. 10, 2003;
- * **Dorsey's** residence at 9719 S. Oakley in Kansas City.

Dorsey was arrested on Sept. 10, 2003, while attempting to deliver 120 grams of cocaine to **Ealom**.

On the same day, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant on **Dorsey's** home and vehicle. Officers found approximately 30 grams of crack cocaine inside the residence, Graves said, as well as a Taurus .38-caliber semi-automatic handgun with eight live rounds in the magazine.

Under federal statutes, **Dorsey** could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years in federal prison without parole, up to life imprisonment, plus a fine up to \$4 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

On Aug. 23, 2004, co-defendant **Megashia C. Jackson**, 28, of Kansas City, was sentenced to five years of probation. On May 10, 2004, **Jackson** pleaded guilty to being in possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute.

Prior to the execution of the search warrant at **Dorsey's** residence, Graves said, officers observed **Jackson** arrive in a gold Cadillac. She began carrying items from inside the residence out to the driveway and placing the items at the rear of the Cadillac, then opened the trunk and placed some of the items inside the trunk of the Cadillac. After detaining **Jackson** in the front yard of the residence, officers searched a black trash bag that was sitting on the driveway just to the rear of the open trunk of the Cadillac, which contained approximately 1,100 grams of cocaine. Law enforcement officers also recovered 888 grams of marijuana from **Jackson's** vehicle.

Jackson admitted that **Dorsey** had directed her to remove illegal narcotics from his residence. Those narcotics, Graves said, were intended to be distributed at a later date.

By pleading guilty, **Jackson** also agreed to forfeit to the government a 1994 Cadillac seized at the time of her arrest.

Under federal statutes, **Jackson** could be subject to a sentence of up to five years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney W. Brent Powell. It was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement

Administration.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow